

**Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council
Monthly Stakeholders Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, January 13, 2009, 6:30pm
Port of Los Angeles High School, 250 W. 5th Street, San Pedro**

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 6:40 pm by President John Delgado with approximately 30 stakeholders present.

PRESENT: Linda Alexander, Art Almeida, Frank Anderson, Caroline Brady-Sinco, Sue Castillo, John Delgado, Larry Henderson, Kara McLeod, Bill Roberson, Carrie Scoville, Daryl Seybold, Andrew Silber, Phillip Trigas.

ABSENT: Oliver Buie, Benetta Johnson, Raymond Lee Parker

Approval of November 11 and 18, 2008 Minutes. Andrew Silber made a motion to accept the minutes of the November 11 Stakeholder Meeting and November 18 Special Meeting. Passed with unanimous approval.

President's Message:

- Stakeholders are urged to get involved in committees.
- Two new board members were appointed by the board last month. Caroline Brady-Sinco was asked to join the board table. Carlos J. Perez had submitted a letter of resignation as his school schedule will not permit him to attend the board meetings.
- Our board retreat is tentatively scheduled for Feb. 21st. Some board members stated that they had a conflict with that date. The retreat is open to the public.
- The Northwest San Pedro NC is planning a pre-election candidate and issues forum and would like us to co-sponsor this event. Carrie Scoville volunteered to follow up on this.
- We are tentatively planning to have the MTA at our March meeting to discuss proposed public transportation projects.
- The next Knoll Hill community meeting will be held on February 3, 2009
- At the January 6th agenda-setting meeting board members agreed that a letter will be sent to any board member missing 3 consecutive meetings asking them if they intend to participate on this neighborhood council. A negative or non-response will result in our announcing a board vacancy at the next meeting, and filling the vacancy at the following meeting.

Reports from Public Officials:

Councilwoman Hahn's Office: Ana Dragin discussed the following:

- Councilwoman Hahn introduced a City Council motion requiring the Planning Department to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with interested neighborhood councils regarding early notification of pending planning cases.
- Emails from Ana: Ana sends weekly news items to neighborhood council board members every Monday by email. If board members are not receiving these they should contact her to get on her email list.
- Ponte Vista: Bob Bisno is no longer the Project Manager for this Credit Swiss development. The project Planning Commission hearing is scheduled for April 9th. They have announced an intention to revise the project in consultation with the community.

- Chamber Annual Meeting: The San Pedro Chamber of Commerce will hold its annual meeting on January 21, 2009, at 6pm at the POLA High School to discuss upcoming plans and introduce their board of directors.
- LAPD: Officer Helen Pallares has been promoted and no longer serves the Harbor District as our Senior Lead Officer. Sergeant Katherine House is conducting interviews for Officer Pallares' replacement.
- Funding Freeze: A funding freeze for bond financed projects has been imposed by the state. This means that there will be a hold on the Bandini Canyon Project. She urged us to write to the Governor with our concerns.
- National Day of Service is being celebrated on January 17th from 10am-2pm at Toberman.
- Candidate Forum: To be scheduled sometime in February for the five Harbor area NC's.

Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE):

- Rosa Arcadia reported that progress is being made with the neighborhood council access to the Council File System, in that City Council has approved a two-year pilot program for this concept. Certain details still need to be worked out, such as financial disclosure requirements. There will be training from DONE on the process.
- The Regional Budget Day is February 21st, and the deadline for completing the City Budget Survey is January 31st.
- A regional meeting between the City Dept. of Transportation (DOT) and DONE is scheduled for Feb 7th, but the location is yet to be determined. The meeting will feature a discussion of the relationship between neighborhood councils and DOT which is to include an MOU.
- DONE is working on the Neighborhood Purposes Grant policy mechanism that will allow NC's to give funds directly to Community-based organizations, and will be providing an update soon on the City budget and NC funding.
- There will be a Regional Congress of Neighborhoods event in the Valley in April. Last May it was held in South LA. There will be a citywide congress in the fall.

Mayors Office:

- Ricardo Hong awarded a commendation certificate to Phillip Trigas in appreciation of his excellent service on the 2008 Congress of Neighborhood Councils Planning Commission.
- He provided information on Measure R and the proposed half-cent sales tax to fund transportation projects, along with a written summary of expenditure categories and a description of projects.
- A Wilmington Buffer groundbreaking ceremony will be held on January 31, 10 am at C St and Gulf Avenue in Wilmington.

Port of Los Angeles presentation on the Wilmington Waterfront Development Project:

POLA staffer Jan Green Rebstock provided a presentation on the Wilmington Waterfront Development Project along with a color rendering. The project includes 75,000 sq ft of light industrial development and a one acre park and may include a Mercado. No relocation of current businesses is being considered at this time. The project also includes 58,000 sq ft of retail/commercial development. The project is to start near Slip 5 with a new water feature and pedestrian water bridge. Ms. Rebstock went over findings of their environmental analysis and also talked about mitigation. She then

answered questions from board members and stakeholders. The project timeline is 2009 to 2015.

Board member Andrew Silber thanked the Port for what he feels is an extremely good project for Wilmington. He also requested that the Harbor Commission reconfirm its position on requiring the Eastview Little League (EVLL) to relocate off Knoll Hill at the end of the three year agreement term. Bent Christensen replied that the EVLL reported to the Board of Harbor Commissioners a couple of months ago with “no progress.”

Public comments on Non Agenda Items:

- Ray Patricio wants financial help for the San Pedro High School varsity football team. He was referred to the Finance Committee.
- Chris Salabaj announced his candidacy for the 15th District council office. He is a Harbor City resident and teaches with the LAUSD. See www.chrissalabaj.com for more information.
- Announcement of a Soroptimist event scheduled for Friday, February 27, 2009 at the Croatian Cultural Center, 510 W 7th St. San Pedro. Event will include silent and live auctions.
- Ray Buffer announced that the Relevant Stage’s next production of “I Love You, You’re Perfect, Now Change” opens in February.
- Caroline Brady-Sinco announced that the San Pedro Rotary Club is having a blood drive at Temple Beth El this Thursday, and that fundraising for Janice Hahn’s re-election will take place on Feb 9th as a woman’s only martini night at J. Traini’s.
- Andrea Adleman announced that the 8th Street Lofts retail operation will reopen soon with a café. Adleman is their new Sales and Marketing Director. Email PortTownPlaza@aol.com for more information.
- Bill Roberson announced that on January 23, 24 and 25th, the Williams Book Store will celebrate their 100-th year of business. It is the oldest continuously run book store in the City of Los Angeles.

Committee and Representative Reports:

ACE District Report by Darota Star: New by-laws were approved at the last meeting. The Chamber of Commerce will manage their \$100,000 cash flow. Projects and proposals for spending must be presented in writing, and may not include rent or hiring. Next meeting Feb 9th in the Chamber Board Room.

Treasurer’s report: Linda Alexander provided a written report. A new form is available online for making funding requests. The next Finance Committee meeting will be next Monday night at the Whale and Ale.

Action Item - Clean San Pedro: Steve Kleinjan gave a brief presentation on Clean San Pedro’s activities in the Central district. Frank Anderson advocated that we support Clean San Pedro with \$5,000 of new funding. Andrew Silber made a motion, seconded by Caroline Sinco-Brady, that the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council provide support to the Clean San Pedro organization in the amount of \$5,000. **The motion was passed with 8 yes votes and 0 no votes.**

PROGRAM ITEM: Mark Mariscal, Regional Manager, Department of Recreation and Parks spoke on current Recreation and Park Department issues. Note: due to time constraints, the following program item on the agenda was presented out of order.

- The Pacific Region is everything south of Downtown LA, and employs 320 full time and 700 part time people.
- Status of Leland Park: Currently open 4 hours a day Monday through Friday. This Spring, it's softball program will be moved to Peck Park. The pre-school program, now reduced to half time, may close entirely. The Park Director is now at Cabrillo Beach half time.
- The Department is operating under a zero growth budget which actually means a 3% cut from this year's level, and a 9% reduction in real dollars. There will be reduced staff hours and less money available for maintenance. User fees will help restore programs at some parks.
- Status of Bandini Canyon: The State has frozen capital dollars which will freeze construction.
- Staffing cutbacks include restroom cleanings being cut down to once a day in some areas.
- Local park improvements were discussed.
- Public park facilities operated by non-public entities include the Navy property on Western, and Knoll Hill. There is a joint use agreement with the school district for the San Pedro High football field as it was built with Park and Rec funds. Daniel's Field is operated under a long term lease with the Boys and Girls Club. To see the department's priority list, visit their website: www.laparks.org.
- Kara McLeod asked about stopping the sale of the historic Episcopal Church building to the Green Hills Cemetery. The response was that it is not yet settled and should come up for community comment at some point.
- Carrie Scoville asked whether the money for Welcome Park came from the same fund that used to provide youth programs which are now being cut. The response was that they come from separate accounts.
- The LAUSD and the LA Conservancy met yesterday to discuss the preservation of historic buildings at Angel's Gate. A community meeting to talk about one or more buildings being moved to other Rec and Park property is pending.
- Mariscal talked about Park Advisory Boards (PABs) and having NC board members hold a position on those boards. Frank Anderson asked about Rec and Parks efforts to promote PABs. Mariscal responded that some Park Directors are better communicators than others.

Action Item - Arts & Culture Committee Event "History in the Making": Dan Pasley talked about past funding of Black History Month events (typically \$2500 per year) and asked for a similar budget this year for an event named "History in the Making." The focus of the event is "the change that is possible today" and will include prominent speakers as well as various forms of entertainment to be held on February 8th at the Warner Grand Theater starting at 2 pm. Caroline Brady-Sinco felt that there is not enough time to put together an event of this type and have success in getting people to attend. **By a board vote of 10 yes votes to 1 no, the CSPNC will support this event with a budget of \$2,500.**

Action Item – Relevant Stage PA System Partnership: The second item was a proposal for an ongoing partnership with The Relevant Stage providing \$5,000 in funding for the first 6 months of this year that would be conditioned upon a resource-sharing agreement for the Relevant Stage to provide our PA system at no additional cost to us . **Art Almeida made a motion that this “partnership” proposal be referred to the Arts and Culture Committee and Finance Committee, seconded by Bill Roberson. Motion passed with 10 yes votes, 0 no votes.**

Action Item – Relevant Stage Senior Event: The discussion continued with a request for \$1,500 to support the upcoming Relevant Stage production titled “I Love You, You’re Perfect, Now Change.” With this funding Harbor Area senior citizens, many of whom have never before attended a Warner Grand theater performance, would be brought to Valentine’s Day performances both for their enjoyment and to acquaint them with the theater. **Sue Castillo made a motion to support the production in the amount of \$1500. Motion seconded by Andrew Silber and passed with 8 yes votes, 1 no vote.** Andrew Silber went on the record stating that this is the last time he will vote yes on a motion for funds that has not gone through the appropriate committee review.

Pacific Corridor Community Advisory Committee (PC CAC) Report: Andrew Silber explained that the parking meter rate change is a major concern of the CAC, as no one knows what impact this will have on our downtown commercial district.

PCAC Report: Carrie Scoville provided a written report. She proposed that we advise her as to how she should vote on these upcoming PCAC action items:

- Action Item - Foreign trade zones impacts on communities. The PCAC may request that the Port study the impact of foreign trade zones in a community and whether there are opportunities for funding local area improvements. **The vote was 6 yes to 4 no to support such a request.**
- Action Item - Inclusion of Construction Emissions in Health Risk Assessments. The PCAC may request that the Board of Harbor Commissioners include pollution caused by construction activities in formal health risk assessments for projects. **The vote was 10 yes and 0 no to support such a request.**
- Action Item - Opposition to Cruise Ships in Outer Harbor: The PCAC may take a position of support for the community-generated “Sustainable Waterfront Plan” and strongly oppose any permanent berthing of cruise ships in the outer harbor. This question was split into two parts upon the request of the body. **The vote to support the Sustainable Waterfront Plan passed with 6 yes votes to 3 no votes. The vote to strongly oppose any permanent berthing of cruise ships in the outer harbor passed with 7 yes votes to 4 no votes.**

Outreach Committee: Phill Trigas gave a brief report on the committee’s progress with the proposed newsmagazine.

Standing Rules Committee: Bill Roberson briefly talked about what the committee hopes to accomplish at the next meeting.

Agenda Item 7d: Action Item - Resolution recommended by the Land Use Planning Committee:

*Whereas the proposed Ponte Vista project is of great interest to the people of San Pedro and surrounding areas; and,
Whereas it is inconvenient for community members who desire to attend a Planning Commission hearing to have to travel more than 20 miles to downtown Los Angeles; and,
Whereas it is desirable that government serve the needs of those most impacted by this development;
Therefore be it resolved that the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council urges the Citywide Planning Commission to meet in San Pedro when it considers the application for the Ponte Vista project.*
Resolution adopted by unanimous vote.

Due to the late hour, the Board voted to postpone consideration of the following agenda items to the February meeting:

- Item 7b - China Shipping Aesthetic Mitigation proposal recommendations
- Item 7c - Harbor Interfaith Facility expansion proposal
- Item 7e - review of CALTRANS meeting regarding their freeway improvements
- Item 7f - Petition by Black Hill residents re the West Basin Southwest Slip

Action Item - Determination of a next action regarding the Department of Water & Power's Solar Initiative (proposed Measure B on the City's March General Election):
Court voted in favor of the DWP community working committee's request and dismissed a lawsuit by the Working Californians group, including a request to pay attorney fees and court costs. Next step for us would be to find a way of publishing our opinion, perhaps in Daily Breeze, Community Impact Statement, send statement to Janice Hahn's office.
Sue Castillo made a motion to submit our previously adopted resolution as a community impact statement, seconded by Carrie Scoville. Larry Henderson gave his opinion that this negatively affects union laborers and carpenters. Kara McLeod said that we need to know a lot more about the costs involved. **The motion passed with 7 yes to 3 no votes.**

Meeting adjourned at 10:17 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Sue Castillo, Secretary, with the assistance of Kristina Smith, Neighborhood Council Administrative Assistant.